

REMARKS

This Amendment is submitted with an RCE in response to the Final Office Action of November 10, 2003. Claims 1-21 and 23-29 are pending in the application. Claims 2-5, 8, 10, 12, and 13 are withdrawn from consideration. Claims 6-7 and 17-21 are allowed and claims 14-16 are objected to. Claims 1, 9, 11 and 23-29 are rejected. Applicants respond to the Office Action as follows.

Response to Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1, 9 and 23-29 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Yoshizawa et al. JP 2-50379 A. Claims 1, 9 and 23-29 were rejected on the basis that Yoshizawa discloses a flow controller or spoiler (7) including a flow device or spoiler tooth (13) including a leading edge having a plurality of inlets and a trailing edge including a plurality of outlets and a plurality of streamline flow passages (12) between the plurality of inlets and the plurality of outlets. Claims 1 and 9 have been amended to recite a flow controller including a flow gate and the flow gate including a plurality of rows of inlets at the leading edge and a plurality of row of outlets at the trailing edge and a plurality of rows of streamline flow passages therebetween which is not taught nor suggested by Yoshizawa and which provides flow control advantages as described in Applicants' specification.

Claims 23-29 have been amended to recite *inter alia* a plurality of flow devices supported in the flow field of each of a plurality of stacked discs of a spindle assembly and each of the flow devices including a plurality of streamline flow passages between a plurality of inlets at the leading edge and a plurality of outlets at the trailing edge which is not taught nor suggested by Yoshizawa and which provides flow control advantages as described in Applicants' specification.

Response to Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claim 11 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Yoshizawa JP 2-50379. Claim 11 is dependent upon

amended claim 1 which as amended is allowable over Yoshizawa. Reconsideration and allowance of amended claim 11 are respectfully requested.

Response to Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 6, 7 and 17-21 are allowed and claims 14-16 were indicated to be allowable if amended to include all limitations from the preceding base claims and any intervening claim. Claims 6, 7, and 14-21 have been amended and consideration and allowance thereof are respectfully requested.

The Director is authorized to charge any fee deficiency required by this paper or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 23-1123.

Respectfully submitted,

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